

443-643-0305/410-879-2684
FAX 443-643-0333

NOTICE REGARDING EXCLUDED ORGANIZATIONS FOOD SERVICE

Maryland law defines an excluded organization as:

“Excluded organization” means a volunteer fire company or bona fide nonprofit fraternal, civic, war veteran’s, religious, or charitable organization or corporation which does not serve food to the public more often than 4 days per week.

Maryland law requires excluded organizations to abide by the food safety laws but allows these specific nonprofit groups to operate food service facilities according to regulations that were written especially for them and that are less stringent than those governing other food service facilities. A copy of the regulations is available through your local health department.

The law also provides that excluded organizations may choose to comply with the more stringent requirements that govern other food service facilities such as restaurants and grocery stores. However, if that choice is made, it is not reversible and the excluded organization must continue to abide by the stricter requirements.

To summarize, this notice is to advise you and your organization of:

- the requirements that govern your organization’s food service operation;
- the choice available to you; and
- the condition that accompanies that choice (i.e. the fact that the choice, once made, is not rescindable).

If you have any questions, please call your local health department.